

U.S. Officials Only
CONFIDENTIAL

SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Town of Yoshkar-Ola: Communications/New Buildings/Local Industry.

50X1-HUM

DATE DISTR. / Sept 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLRS.

SUPP. TO
REPORT NO.

50X1-HUM

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES. WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 17, SECTIONS 703 AND 704, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS REPORT IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. "Yoshkar-Ola is the capital of the Mari ASSR. The following information dates approximately to 1952.

Terrain

2. "The town stands on a rise in an area of swampy, marshy woodlands.

Communications

3. "A one-gauge ~~5~~7 railway leads to Yoshkar-Ola from the town of Zelenodolsk thus linking it to the Moscow-Kazan railway line.

4. "The Malaya Kokshaga River, which flows past Yoshkar-Ola, is not navigable. The town has no port and no shipping connection with the Volga.

5. "Yoshkar-Ola has a small airfield which belongs to the Grazhdanski Vozdushny Flot (GVF-- Civilian Aviation Administration). There are no other airfields in the vicinity; the terrain is unsuitable.

Town

6. "The town of Yoshkar-Ola is really a large village. Most of the houses are built of wood and are one-story only. The streets are unpaved.

7. "About 20 stone buildings were built in the center of the town during 1946-1952. None are of military character or for military purposes. They include: the local House of Soviets, the town library, a theatre, a cinema, the Yoshkar-Ola Hotel, the Forestry Technical Institute, a pedagogical institute and a town hospital.

U.S. Officials Only
CONFIDENTIAL

SECURITY INFORMATION

DISTRIBUTION	STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI	ORR EV	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
--------------	-------	--	--	---	---	--------	-------------------------------------

This report is for the use within the UPA of the Intelligence components of the Departments or Agencies indicated above. It is not to be transmitted overseas without the concurrence of the originating office through the Assistant Director of the Office of Collection and Dissemination, CIA.

50X1-HUM

US OFFICIALS ONLY
CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION

-2-

Industry

8. "Four factories were built in Yoshkar - Ola during World War II:

- a) The Mari Scales Factory -- Manufactures table scales of five, 10 and 20 kilograms and 'weighbridges' of two, three, five and 10 tons.
- b) The Mari Factory for Electrical Equipment-- Manufactures various types of electrostatic measuring apparatus, including voltmeters, ampermeters, transformers and various magnetic electrical devices.

(It is possible that this factory also produces various electronic devices, such as electronic oscilloscopes. There have been reports to this effect but no confirmation)

50X1-HUM

- c) The Mari Factory for 'Narrow-Film' Movie Equipment and Cameras.
- d) The Yoshkar-Ola Ski Factory -- Manufactures skis and lodkivolokushki (literally, 'drag-boats'; presumably, some type of freight sled) for the Soviet Army. These lodkivolokushki are used to transport machine guns, ammunition and minomioty ('mine throwers') in winter when the snow is very deep.

Natural Resources

9. "There are several large wood pulp factories in the Mari ASSR in the vicinity of Yoshkar-Ola. Timber is practically the only natural resource of the republic. In the spring it is floated down the Malaya Kokshaga River."

-end-

US OFFICIALS ONLY
CONFIDENTIAL
SECURITY INFORMATION